

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

- 1. (withdrawn):** A method for measuring lipoarabinomannan in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, which comprises allowing a Limulus reagent to contact with the sample.
- 2. (withdrawn):** The method according to claim 1, which further comprises heating the lipoarabinomannan-containing sample before the contact with the Limulus reagent.
- 3. (withdrawn):** The method according to claim 2, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.
- 4. (withdrawn):** A method for detecting an acid-fast bacterium, which comprises using the method of claim 1.
- 5. (withdrawn):** The method according to claim 4, wherein the acid-fast bacterium is a tubercle bacillus.
- 6. (withdrawn):** A kit for measuring lipoarabinomannan, which comprises a Limulus reagent as a component.

**7. (withdrawn):** The kit according to claim 6, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

**8. (withdrawn):** A kit for detecting an acid-fast bacterium, which comprises the kit of claim 6.

**9. (withdrawn):** The kit according to claim 8, wherein the acid-fast bacterium is a tubercle bacillus.

**10. (currently amended):** A method for removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample ~~with~~to a Limulus reagent, which comprises allowing one or more substance(s) selected from the following group to coexist with the sample:

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a (1→3)-β-glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)-β-glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor, a strong alkaline substance, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin A, histidine and histamine.

**11. (currently amended):** A method for measuring an endotoxin ~~using a Limulus reagent in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, which comprises removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan with~~to a Limulus reagent by the method of claim 10, ~~contacting said sample with a Limulus reagent, and detecting or measuring the Limulus reaction induced by said endotoxin.~~

**12. (original):** The method according to claim 11, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

**13. (currently amended):** A method for detecting an endotoxin-related disease, which comprises using detecting or measuring an endotoxin in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample according to the method of claim 11.

**14. (withdrawn):** A kit for measuring an endotoxin, which comprises a Limulus reagent and one or more substance(s) selected from the following group as components:

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a (1→3)- $\beta$ -glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)- $\beta$ -glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor and a strong alkaline substance.

**15. (withdrawn):** The kit according to claim 14, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

**16. (withdrawn):** A kit for detecting an endotoxin-related disease, which comprises the kit of claim 14.

**17. (withdrawn):** A method for measuring a (1→3)- $\beta$ -glucan using a Limulus reagent in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, which comprises removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan with a Limulus reagent by the method of claim 10.

**18. (withdrawn):** The method according to claim 17, wherein the Limulus reagent is a (1→3)- $\beta$ -glucan-specific Limulus reagent.

**19. (withdrawn):** A method for detecting mycosis, which comprises using the method of claim 17.

**20. (withdrawn):** A kit for measuring a (1→3)- $\beta$ -glucan, which comprises a Limulus reagent and one or more substance(s) selected from the following group as components:

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a strong alkaline substance, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin histidine and histamine.

**21. (withdrawn):** The kit according to claim 20, wherein the Limulus reagent is a (1→3)- $\beta$ -glucan-specific Limulus reagent.

**22. (withdrawn):** A kit for detecting mycosis, which comprises the kit of claim 20.

**23. (withdrawn):** An agent for binding of lipoarabinomannan, which comprises one or more substance(s) selected from the following group as an active ingredient:

an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, (1→3)- $\beta$ -glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)- $\beta$ -glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin A, histidine and histamine.